

It's Not Garbage Anymore! Yard and Food Collection



YES!

Yard Waste

Grass & leaves
Weeds
Prunings
Houseplants
Branches
(under 4' long, 4" wide)

Food-Soiled Paper

Paper towels & napkins
Paper plates & cups
Paper food wrap
Paper take-out cartons
Greasy pizza boxes
Milk cartons containing food scraps
Paper bags containing food scraps
Shredded paper

Food Scraps

Fruit & vegetables
Bread, pasta & grains
Eggshells, nutshells
Coffee grounds & filters
Tea bags



NO!

Meat, fish or chicken
Dairy products
Plastic bags, wrap, straws
Animal or human waste
Pet litter
Facial or toilet tissue
Diapers
Soil, rocks
Stumps/limbs
(over 6' long, 4" wide)
Lumber or fencing
Metal, plastic, glass
Hazardous waste
Grease or liquids
Styrofoam

Seattle
Public
Utilities

(206) 684-3000
TTY (206) 233-7241
www.seattle.gov/util/yard

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若欲索取用中文編寫的資訊
Чтобы получить информацию на
русском языке, звоните по телефону
한국어로 안내를 원하시면
Para información en español
Muốn biết chi tiết bằng tiếng Việt ...
(206) 684-3000



Green Living Expo

September 16 & 17 and September 23 & 24

Mark your calendars for Seattle's Green Living Expo—an unprecedented tour of West Seattle's High Point neighborhood. The expo will include tours of model homes as well as exhibits and seminars about

the latest innovations in “green” living for taking better care of our communities and environment.

Located in West Seattle (35th Avenue SW & SW Raymond Street), the Green Living Expo offers free workshops, seminars and exhibits to help you learn about cutting edge “eco-friendly” products and ideas!

The expo is free to the public and open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Green Living Info Line at 615-3433 or visit www.thehighpoint.com.

Presented by Seattle City Light, Seattle Public Utilities, and Seattle Housing Authority.

Postal Customer
ECRWS

(206) 684-3000

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CurbWaste & Conserve

700 5th Avenue, Suite 4900
Seattle, WA 98124-4018
PO Box 34018

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Public
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Seattle Public Utilities

CURBWASTE & Conserve

Tips and Programs for Seattle Residents

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City of Seattle
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Seattle Public Utilities
Chuck Clarke, Director

PO Box 34018
Seattle, WA
98124-4018

www.seattle.gov/util

(206) 684-3000
(206) 233-7241 TTY

It's Not Garbage Anymore!

Banana peels, corn cobs, coffee cups and greasy pizza boxes all have one thing in common - they're not garbage anymore!

Seattle yard waste subscribers can now recycle leftover fruit, vegetables, grains and food-soiled paper in their 96-gallon yard waste cart.

Last year, Seattle residents threw away more than 45,000 tons of food. Why waste a good thing? Instead, put your leftover apple cores, paper plates and hot dog buns in your yard waste cart, and they'll be made into natural compost for local lawns and gardens.

Seattle Public Utilities also offers compost bins year-round to Seattle residents. Two green cones provide easy continuous, year-round food scrap composting for your garden. Yard waste bins compost leaves, grass and garden clippings. Food waste bins are \$40 for two or \$25 each, including tax. Yard waste bins are \$25 each, including tax, limit one per household. Call (206) 684-0190 to order with a check or credit card. Home delivery is available for a small extra charge.



Composting cuts down on landfill costs, fights global warming, and helps keep Seattle green! To learn more about recycling food waste or backyard composting, visit www.seattle.gov/util or call (206) 684-3000 today!





September 1-30

Applying compost, organic fertilizer and bark mulch in the fall means a healthier, weed-free and less water-consuming yard next year. During the month of September, Seattle Public Utilities, King County, and other agencies will again sponsor Northwest Natural Yard Days. Participating hardware stores and garden centers will be offering discounts of 20% and more on compost, organic fertilizers, and bark mulch. For more information about Northwest Natural Yard Days and a list of participating retailers, visit www.yarddays.com

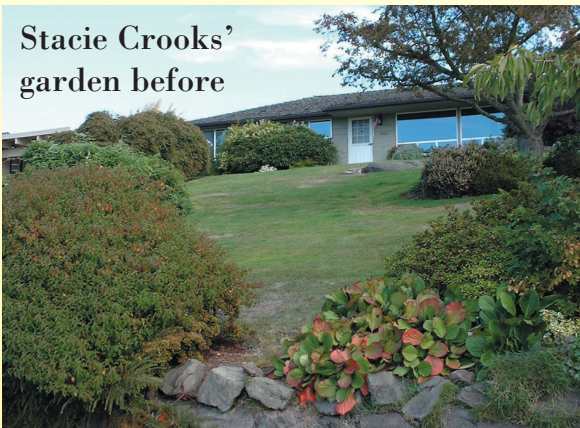
savvy gardener

Sign Up for Free Gardening Tips

Get savvy about growing a beautiful garden that is gentle on our environment. Sign up to receive timely advice and inspiration from our new e-newsletter, *The Savvy Gardener Connection*. Each seasonal issue contains gardening advice from experts, news about discounted products, class announcements and stories about transformed gardens. To subscribe, go to www.seattle.gov/lists and click on “The Savvy Gardener Connection” and add your email address to our list.

Once Upon a Time in a Beautiful Garden... Tell us your garden stories!

Have you recently transformed a corner of your garden, your parking strip or your entire yard into a beautiful, water-wise landscape? Do you have a fabulous fruit or vegetable patch maintained without pesticides? Have you created wildlife habitat? Tell us how you created an environmentally-friendly garden and we may share it with other gardeners in our region. If your story is chosen for publication, we may post it on our web site, include it in our brochures and feature it in our e-newsletter, *The Savvy Gardener Connection*. To learn more, visit www.savingwater.org/outside.htm



Stacie Crooks' garden before



Waterwise garden after redesign



Prevent Flooding and Pollution Protect Storm Drains!

Storm drains clogged by leaves, litter, and dirt often cause urban flooding during high winds and heavy rains. Keep an eye out in your neighborhood, and if you notice a potential for flooding, contact (206) 386-1800.

Many storm drains flow directly to our local streams. Fish and other marine life can be harmed when soap, engine fluids, chemical fertilizers and pesticides wash into storm drains. Charity and residential car washes can especially be deadly. The soap used for washing vehicles is often a greater threat than the substances washed off the vehicle itself. Even though “biodegradable,” “environmentally-safe,” and “low-phosphate” ingredients may sound good, they do not mean “toxic-free,” and are still a threat to our salmon and the environment.

Partnering with a professional car wash is a great way to have a fund-raiser and stop pollution. For more info and a list of participating car washes, call The Puget Sound Car Wash Association at (800) 509-9274.

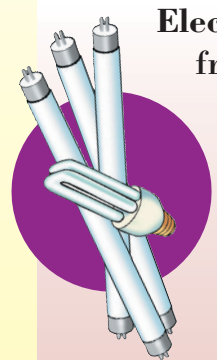
Save on Your Next Move!

Moving this fall? Consider donating or selling your unwanted usable items and you could prevent waste, make yourself some extra money and save your back a lot strain!

For donations, consider online-services and exchanges, or call local charitable organizations for drop-off locations or schedule a pick-up at your home. To sell items, consider hosting a garage sale, using a consignment shop, placing a newspaper ad, or listing your items online.

Recycle Electronics & Fluorescent Bulbs

Some common household items contain hazardous materials such as mercury, lead, and other heavy metals.



Electronics: In Seattle, computers, monitors, TVs, and cell phones are banned from the garbage.

Fluorescent lamps: Fluorescent light bulbs and tubes use only about one-third of the electricity as regular incandescent bulbs and last 6 to 10 times longer. But fluorescent bulbs and tubes contain mercury, and it is illegal to throw them in the trash.

For more information about local businesses that can recycle home electronics or fluorescent lamps, visit www.takeitbacknetwork.com or call (206) 684-3000. Recycling fees vary by item type, and from store to store. If your unwanted electronic item is working and made after the year 2000, call your local thrift store to ask if they will accept it.



Dear Evelyn: Can I recycle my shredded paper?

When it comes to recycling, all paper shredders are not alike! Paper mills need long paper fibers to be able to make new paper, so only long-cut strands of shredded paper can be recycled. Cross-cut shredded paper, or confetti, cannot be recycled. Both long-cut and cross-cut shredded paper can go in Seattle’s yard and food waste cart to be made into compost.

Dear Evelyn: What kinds of plastic bags can be recycled?

Plastic shopping bags, newspaper bags, and dry cleaning bags are recyclable. They need to be CLEAN, DRY, and EMPTY (no shopping receipts). Please stuff all the bags into one bag and tie it securely so they won’t fly away.

Dear Ev: When I buy my groceries, should I ask for a paper bag or a plastic bag?

You should bring your own REUSEABLE bag. If you forget to bring one, many grocery stores keep used plastic bags near the front checkout for reuse.

Hey Evelyn! Do I need to take the labels off my cans and jars before I recycle them?

No, you can leave them on. Thanks to technological advances, we can now strip them off in the recycling process. However, you still need to take the caps and lids off to avoid jamming the recycling machinery.

Dear Evelyn: Can I recycle my old phonebook?

Yes, phone books are recyclable, as are paperback books and magazines. Hardbacks are also recyclable, if you remove the cover.

Please send your recycling questions, tips or suggestions to Ask Evelyn, Seattle Public Utilities, PO Box 34018, Seattle, WA 98124-4018 or e-mail Evelyn the Envelope at askevelyn@seattle.gov

This information can be made available on request to accommodate people with disabilities and those who need language translation assistance. Call Seattle Public Utilities at (206) 684-3000. TDD telephone number is (206) 233-7241. Please recycle this newsletter or pass it on to a friend. Printed on recycled paper made out of 100% post-consumer waste.